



Press Release

Incident: February 5, 2017, Officer Involved Fatal Shooting Update # 2

Location: 39000 block of Argonaut Way

Date/Time of Incident: February 5, 2017 at 4:02pm

On February 5, 2017, an officer involved shooting occurred in the City of Fremont. The following summary is based on the Fremont Police Department's investigation to this point:

At 4:02 p.m., the Fremont Police Dispatch Center received a 911 call from the 39000 block of Argonaut Way. An employee from a business told the dispatcher an unknown male came into the store, "attacked" employees and was rude to customers. The employee went on to say that when he asked the man to leave, the suspect grabbed a phone from him. He then stated the suspect hit him and threatened to kill him. The suspect was last seen walking past Fremont Fire Station 1 on Argonaut Way in the direction of Mowry Ave.

Two uniformed patrol officers were dispatched to a battery call at 4:05 p.m. Officer James Taylor and his police canine were close by and also went to the call. At 4:10 p.m., Officer Taylor located a person similar to the description given by the employee, walking west bound in the middle of the south frontage road of Mowry Ave towards Sutter Dr. Officer Taylor turned on his overhead forward facing red light to make a pedestrian stop of the suspect as he was walking in the roadway. Officer Taylor got out of his patrol car. He recognized the suspect from at least three separate prior contacts, each that ended without any sort of violence. The suspect, later identified as 45 year old Nana Adomako (6'4", 190 lbs.) a Fremont resident, walked to the driver's side of the patrol car. Officer Taylor asked Adomako to sit on the curb. Adomako immediately challenged why he was being stopped and made statements about being the "King of Fremont" and the "Chief of Police." Officer Taylor asked Adomako to sit on the curb three times. Each time Adomako would reply, questioning why he was being stopped, saying he was the "King of Fremont" and the "Chief of Police," as he became more agitated. While this was occurring, Adomako moved in closer and appeared to be trying to stand over Officer Taylor. Officer Taylor attempted to ease the situation by speaking in a calm voice. A witness would later confirm in their interview that Officer Taylor was speaking in a "calm and professional manner." Officer Taylor recently attended a 38 hour Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) course, a program designed to teach de-escalation during crisis situations.

Officer Taylor's patrol car was positioned in an area near a curb and small dirt hill next to Mowry Ave. Officer Taylor felt that this position was unsafe because of the confined area. He decided to move Adomako to a safer location in front of his patrol car. Officer Taylor attempted to place Adomako in a control hold by grasping his wrist, but Adomako pulled away. Officer Taylor gripped the front of Adomako's jacket and tried to seat him on the front of his vehicle. While trying to control Adomako, Officer Taylor determined his TASER would be ineffective due to Adomako's layers of bulky clothing. Adomako became combative. Officer Taylor again attempted to place Adomako in a control hold by

grasping his wrist. Adomako grabbed Officer Taylor and began striking him in the head and face forcing him backward in the frontage road. While the attack continued, Officer Taylor successfully pushed the door release button on his duty belt for his police canine. The canine exited the patrol car, ran and mistakenly jumped up on Officer Taylor. The canine bit Officer Taylor on his left side before quickly releasing. The canine was ineffective and did not stop the attack on Officer Taylor.

Adomoko delivered a severe punch to the left side of Officer Taylor's head as he looked down at his canine. The totality of the strikes caused Officer Taylor to feel unsteady. A witness subsequently told investigators they heard the impact to Officer Taylor's head as Adomako struck him. Adomako made no attempt to run or flee the scene. Officer Taylor felt that if Adomako punched him again, he would lose consciousness. As the attack continued and fearing he would be seriously injured or killed, Officer Taylor fired 3 shots in immediate close contact with Adomako, stopping the attack and causing him to move away and fall to the ground.

A second responding patrol officer, Grant Goepf, was driving to the call and saw the fight taking place. Using lights and siren, he made an urgent U-turn at the intersection and pulled up to the scene just as the shooting occurred. Officer Goepf helped Officer Taylor handcuff Adomako. They immediately called for an ambulance and began to provide field trauma medical care to Adomako. Additional officers arrived and recognized that Officer Taylor was also in need of medical aid. A second ambulance was called for Officer Taylor, but not utilized. Officer Taylor was brought to the police department and then transported by Fremont Officers to a local hospital for treatment. Adomako was declared deceased at the scene by Fremont Fire at 4:22 p.m.

Officer Taylor sustained a mild concussion due to blunt force trauma, a contusion to the left side of his face, a broken finger, bruising to the area around his left eye, scratches and abrasions to his neck and chest as well as a dog bite. He was released from the hospital late Sunday night. As is Department protocol, Officer Taylor has been placed on paid administrative leave and is continuing to recover from his injuries.

In the investigation that followed, several independent witnesses were contacted and interviewed. Both patrol cars at the scene were equipped with in-car video. The video from Officer Taylor's car captured the majority of the incident without audio. The second in-car recording includes audio of the emergency medical care provided at the scene.

Officer Taylor has been a Fremont Police Officer for more than 8 years. In addition to what is identified above, Officer Taylor is also a Defensive Tactics Instructor with the Fremont Police Department. The incident is being investigated by the Fremont Police Department. A separate investigation is being conducted by the Alameda County District Attorney's Office.

If anyone has information about this incident, you are asked to please contact Fremont Police Investigators at 510-790-6900 or email Detective Gaches at CGaches@fremont.gov.

Press/Media: Please contact Public Affairs Manager Geneva Bosques or PIO Sgt. Ricardo Cortes at 510-790-6802 or email FremontPDPIO@fremont.gov.

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